

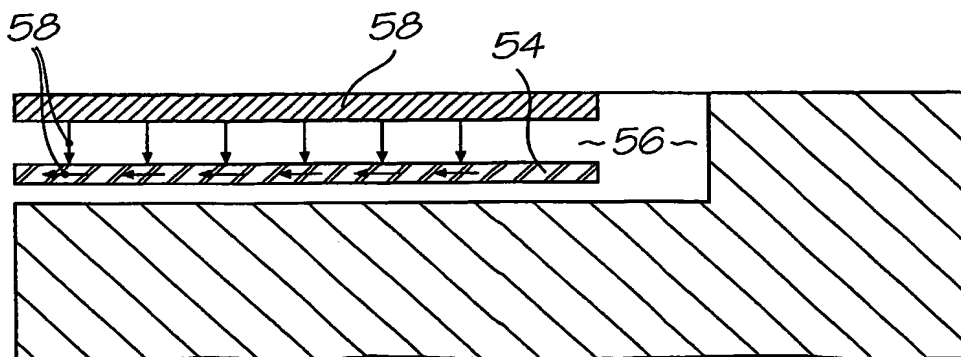
(12) INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(19) World Intellectual Property Organization
International Bureau(43) International Publication Date
23 October 2003 (23.10.2003)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number
WO 03/086768 A1

- (51) International Patent Classification⁷: **B41J 2/05**, (74) Agent: **SILVERBROOK, Kia**; Silverbrook Research Pty Ltd, 393 Darling Street, Balmain, New South Wales 2041 (AU).
- (21) International Application Number: PCT/AU02/00775
- (22) International Filing Date: 14 June 2002 (14.06.2002)
- (25) Filing Language: English
- (26) Publication Language: English
- (30) Priority Data: 10/120,359 12 April 2002 (12.04.2002) US
- (71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): **SILVERBROOK RESEARCH PTY LTD** [AU/AU]; 393 Darling Street, Balmain, New South Wales 2041 (AU).
- (72) Inventors; and
- (75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only): **SILVERBROOK, Kia** [AU/AU]; Silverbrook Research Pty Ltd, 393 Darling Street, Balmain, New South Wales 2041 (AU). **MCAVOY, Gregory, John** [IE/AU]; Silverbrook Research Pty Ltd, 393 Darling Street, Balmain, New South Wales 2041 (AU).
- (81) Designated States (national): AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NO, NZ, OM, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SD, SE, SG, SI, SK, SL, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW.
- (84) Designated States (regional): ARIPO patent (GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, CH, CY, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE, TR), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).
- Published:
— with international search report
- For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.

(54) Title: THERMOELASTIC INKJET ACTUATOR WITH HEAD CONDUCTIVE PATHWAYS

(57) Abstract: A thermal inkjet actuator for use in an inkjet printer assembly includes heat conduction means arranged to realize a predetermined negative pressure profile to facilitate droplet formation. In a preferred embodiment the heat conduction means comprises a thin layer (54) of very high thermally conductive material such as Aluminium located in the middle of a non-heat conductive passive bend layer (56). The overall cool-down speed of the actuator, and hence the speed with which the passive bend layer returns to its quiescent position can be controlled by controlling the proximity of the heat conductive layer to the actuator's heater during fabrication.